



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

Nashville District

# Public Notice

Public Notice No. 01 – 88

Date: November 16, 2001

Application No. 4706000

Please address all comments to:  
Nashville District Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch  
3701 Bell Road, Nashville, TN 37214

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JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE  
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY  
AND  
STATE OF ALABAMA

SUBJECT: Proposed Skimmer Wall at TVA's Colbert Fossil Plant, Tennessee River, Mile 245 R, Colbert County, Alabama.

TO ALL CONCERNED: The project described below has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA)**. Before a permit can be issued, certification must be provided by the State of Alabama, Department of Environmental Management, pursuant to Section 401 (a)(1) of the CWA, that applicable water quality standards will not be violated. By copy of this notice, the applicant hereby applies for the required certification

APPLICANT: Tennessee Valley Authority  
1101 Market Street  
LP 3K  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

LOCATION: Mile 245 R, Tennessee River in Colbert County, Alabama, USGS Map: PRIDE-AL. LAT: 34-44-48.77 LONG: 87-50-8.26. Please see exhibits A, B, & C.

DESCRIPTION: The proposed work consists of constructing a skimmer wall to allow TVA to pull cooler water from the lower strata of the reservoir, and secondly, to reduce the amount of floating debris brought into the existing intake channel. Construction of the skimmer wall will consist of installing three new sheet pile dolphins in between 2 existing cells and four concrete slab walls between the cells. The new dolphins will be 20.89 feet in diameter and 35 feet high, while the concrete walls will be 2.5 feet thick. The skimmer wall is designed to extend 14 feet below the summer pool elevation 414 and 8 feet below winter pool elevation 408. Additional work includes modification of the existing cells to accommodate the concrete walls by excavating the interior until suitable material is reached, the cells braced and refilled, and finally capped with concrete. Top of the cells would be at Elevation 430, which is 6 feet above the 100-year flood elevation.

All work will be from the water using barges. A small amount of dredging is anticipated with small amounts of substrate removed as part of the new cell construction. Plans of the proposed work are attached to this notice.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources.

The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the work, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the work will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404 (b) (1) of the CWA (40 CFR Part 230). A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historical properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

An Environmental Assessment is being prepared by this office and TVA and the results will be used in the final decision concerning issuance or denial of the requested Department of the Army Permit.

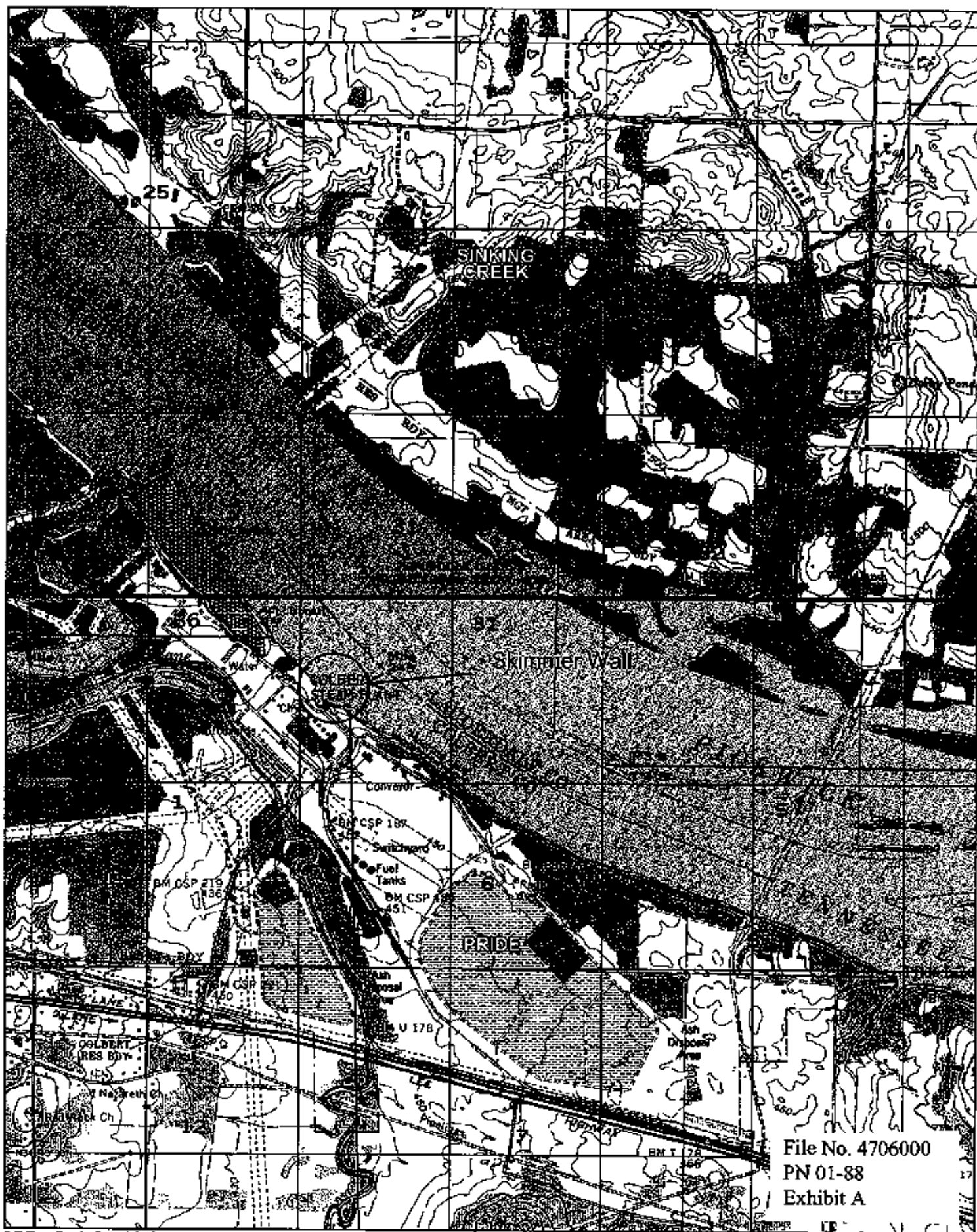
The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed or eligible for the National Register are known which would be affected by the proposed work. This review constitutes the full extent of cultural resource investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the permit area. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Archaeological Services-Atlanta.

The proposed work will not destroy or endanger any federally-listed, threatened, or endangered species or their critical habitats, as identified under the Endangered Species Act; therefore, initiation of formal consultation procedures with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is not planned at this time. Freshwater mussel surveys by TVA reveal no protected species in this area of the Tennessee River; however, minimal amounts of suitable habitat are present in the vicinity to support mainstem endangered species.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Written statements received in this office on or before December 17, 2001, will become a part of the record and will be considered in the determination. Any response to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, Attention: H. Joe Cathey, at the above address, telephone (615) 369-7520. It is not necessary to send comments to the other agencies. All comments received will be provided to the State of Alabama and TVA; however, if you wish to send comments to TVA they should be directed to Ms. Lindy Printz at the above address.





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PN 01-88  
Exhibit A



